

of now; CNG would be supplied to the remaining 7 cities depending upon gas availability. Apart from this, CNG supply to the cities of Agartala and Gandhinagar is being undertaken. GAIL has also identified 15 cities where supplying CNG is seen to be a viable business proposition. Apart from GAIL, some private companies have also evinced interest in the sector.

(c) GAIL has assessed the potential demand of 22 cities, where it has planned city gas distribution projects, as 7.87 MMSCMD. The CNG consumption presently is only 2.26 MMSCMD. The gas supply was earlier at APM rate, which has been increased by 20%, i.e. to Rs. 3840/MMSCM from June, 6, 2006; the price is slowly to be increased to market rate. Supply of gas to new city gas distribution projects would be at market determined rate.

Average price of crude oil

†648. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government gave its permission during June, 2006 to oil companies to raise the price of petrol and diesel in the country;

(b) if so, the average price of crude oil prevailing at that time during the said period in the international market;

(c) whether it is a fact that the prices of said petroleum products have continuously been fluctuating in the international market from last June to November, 2006; and

(d) if so, the average price of crude oil prevailing in international market in the first week of July, August, September, October and November, 2006 respectively?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The prices of petrol and diesel were raised w.e.f. 6th June, 2006. The crude price at the time of price revisions on 6th June, 2006 was about \$67/Bbl for the Indian basket.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) The average monthly prices in respect of petrol and diesel from June to November, 2006 are given in Statement-I. (See below)

(d) The average price of crude oil prevailing in international market in the first week of July, August, September, October and November, 2006 is given in the Statement-II.

Statement-I

Details of average monthly prices of diesel and petrol from June to November, 2006

| | | Diesel Gas Oil 0.5% Arab Gulf US \$/Bbl | petrol Ms(Unleaded 92 RON) FOB-SINGAPORE MARKET US \$/Bbl |
|------|----------------|--|--|
| 2006 | Jun | 82.90 | 82.03 |
| | JUL | 83.57 | 84.47 |
| | AUG | 82.72 | 80.36 |
| | SEP | 72.42 | 65.18 |
| | OCT | 68.54 | 61.21 |
| | NOV(UPTO 17th) | 66.91 | 60.84 |
| | Average | 76.18 | 72.35 |

Statement-II

Details of average price of crude oil in international market

| Reference | | Brent US \$/Bbl | Oman US \$/Bbl | Dubai US \$/Bbl | CRUDE @ OIL INDIAN BASKET US \$/Bbl |
|------------------------|----------------|------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|---|
| IOC/IT Deptt Report | 1st Week of | | | | |
| | July'06 | 73.33 | 69.89 | 68.88 | 70.97 |
| | Aug'06 | 77.02 | 71.72 | 70.55 | 73.50 |
| | Sept'06 | 65.81 | 65.80 | 64.45 | 65.40 |
| | Oct'06 | 57.33 | 57.90 | 56.85 | 57.36 |
| | Nov'06 | 56.66 | 57.25 | 56.40 | 56.76 |

@ The composition of Indian Basket represents Published FOB prices of average Oman/ Dubai crude oils for sour grade and Brent (Dated) for sweet grade in ratio of 59.8:40.2 with effect from 1st Apr', 06